

AMAL TALES

February 2022



What the Dogs Said

Your newsletter editor, a writer by trade, writes thousands of words every month, often under almost unrealistic deadlines. Consequently, she has a bevy of tools to help her produce documents very quickly. Dragon software is a dictation tool that she uses when the topic is familiar to her to develop content quickly. It doesn't work so well if she has to think about what she's going to write. Anyway, she digresses.

After a few days of practice, the software is remarkably accurate and fast. It uses artificial intelligence to almost predict what you will say next. In addition, the headset she uses is quite sensitive. For example, one day her sister called while she was using Dragon, and she rose from the computer and went to the kitchen to empty the dishwasher while she chatted. From 10 feet away, the program captured her end of the discussion almost word for word. (Note to self: Always turn off the program when you're saying something you don't want anyone else to read.)

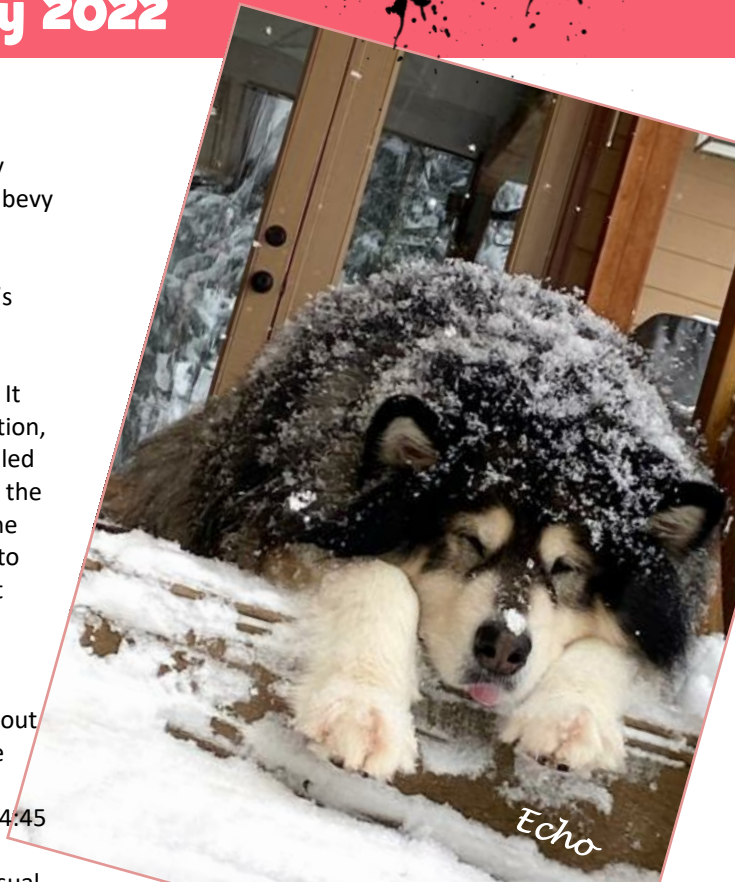
One evening at 4:30, her dogs decided it was supper time. Your dogs are probably better behaved than her dogs; her dogs eat dinner at 5 but at about 4:30 they start pacing, howling, barking, and making other malamute-type noises. Unfortunately, the dictation software gets confused when there's considerable background noise. Like howling and barking for example. By 4:45 PM she had had it. She got up and went to the freezer (which is in her office/pantry) to get frozen drumsticks and homemade frosty paws, the usual Wick household dinner. But something fell out of the freezer and she had to pick it up and re-stack a shelf. And the dogs continued to howl... As she carried dinner to the kitchen, the dogs howled, seemingly louder. Finally, they got their supper and they shut up.

She returned to the computer to finish the document she was working on and this is what she saw in her document:

would would wood door with red road wood would warped
would do it with rude wood boot....(and so forth)

She had forgotten to turn off the Dragon! So that what your malamutes are saying, according to Dragon.

Leo and Miley have decided to write a novel. The working title is *The Rude Wood Boot*.



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Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

..... *We Pull For Them*

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The Alaskan Malamute Assistance League is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and charitable organization recognized by the national breed club, the Alaskan Malamute Club of America. We are an all-volunteer national rescue network which includes state and local breed rescue groups, as well as individual members.

DONATE

AMAL is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and go directly to helping Alaskan Malamutes. For more information, visit

https://www.paypal.com/webapps/shoppingcart?flowlogging_id=9f42ed13149d5&mfid=1622130830814_9f42ed13149d5#/checkout/openButton



AMAL Membership Application/Renewal

July 2021 - June 2022

To renew online, go to

<https://www.malamuterescue.org/index.php/membership/>

Name/s: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

(HINT: Use a return address label)

Country: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

_____ \$25: Individual/Family who want to receive AMAL Tales, the quarterly AMAL newsletter.

_____ \$100: Benefactor

_____ \$25 Benefactor Renewal

Please note that the Alaskan Malamute Pedigree & Registry Program is currently being moved to an online program. The Compact Disk is no longer available.

MAKE A DONATION

Please find \$_____ enclosed. Is this in memory of or in honor of someone? Tell us here:

Yes, I'd like to be contacted about helping Alaskan malamutes in need of assistance: _____

Membership / Donation Payment

Total Amount Enclosed (membership + donations):

\$ _____

* Include AMAL Memberships and other donations all in one check --- simply designate the amounts on this form.

Please make your Check or Money Order (International Money Orders must state "US Dollars") payable to the Alaskan Malamute Assistance League (No abbreviations please!).

Mail to:

AMAL Membership
C/o Treasurer
P.O. Box 7161
Golden, CO 80403

A

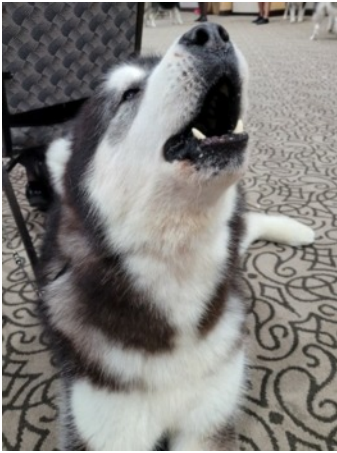
PLEASE PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES!

(Mail the form, or pay online)



Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

We Pull For Them



The Alaskan Malamute Club of America (AMCA) planned to hold the 2022 AMCA Regional and National Specialties in Colorado Springs November 6 -12, 2022. The Hotel Elegante was involved in a hostile takeover and AMCA must reschedule the Specialty show – the committee is working hard to find a new location for it. AMCA organizers are currently involved in selecting and finalizing another hotel; an update indicates that so far, the event is scheduled for October 30 - November 5, 2022 at the Estes Park Event Complex, in Estes Park, CO. As soon as we have more details, AMAL will post on its Facebook sites and on its website (malamuterescue.org).

The National Show is always a wonderful week of outdoor and indoor events with lovely fall scenery as the dogs compete. Thanks to Show Chair Rob Pratt and his Assistant Chair Justin Scottfield for their efforts to reschedule and deliver a great event in the Rocky Mountains.

AMAL participates in several annual events:

- Pre-sales of our AMAL wines
- Week long fundraising at the AMAL table in the show ring
- Honoring our Rescue Showcase participants from the regional AMAL affiliates, and
- Presenting terrific auction items for the AMCA Silent Auction.

Best selling items in the past include limited edition prints, malamute-related items, Alaskan crafts, dog sled, Hawaiian shirts with malamutes, soapstone handcrafts, clothing items, and gift baskets. Consider donating items that you want to AMAL! We will provide delivery directions in a later newsletter and on the AMAL Facebook and web sites.

-Hope to see you there!

Sharon Nichols

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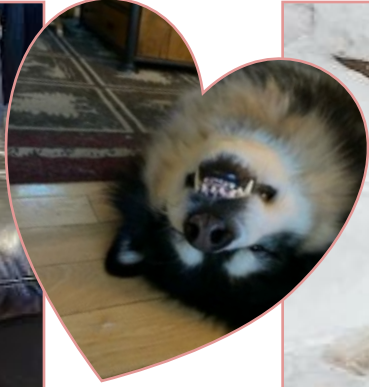
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Email: jywickrph@aol.com

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Life Sentence at “Malcatraz”? Not So Bad!

This is a story about our cover dog, Echo, named for her big, loud, resounding voice. Adopted by Brian and Barb Brunner and family, she moved into their home with its accompanying one acre fenced area affectionately called “Malcatraz.” It’s the area where 10-year-old male Bo and 135 pound male Spartan played together until Echo boosted the count to three: a blonde, a brunette, and a redhead. Echo is a 134-pound female who came to the Brunner family from Washington Alaskan Malamute Adoption League (WAMAL) via a local shelter.

Echo is a real beauty queen among malamutes but had been returned to the shelter three times. Once, the family returned her because they were moving (and they didn’t know that when they adopted her?). The next explanation (excuse?) was that the family was expecting a human baby. The third, and possibly the most honest, was that the adopter underestimated the impact of Echo’s size. Having been in the shelter with little activity for months when she went to WAMAL, she was a little plumper than her ideal weight of 115 to 120 at adoption. Unfortunately, Echo was going to meet an untimely demise unless someone adopted her. The shelter engaged WAMAL, and, well, Echo now lives permanently at Malcatraz.

Adding a new malamute to an existing family that already has malamutes can be time-consuming and stressful. That was not the case with Echo. She made herself right at home right away. By day three, she was wrestling and playing as if she’d been there forever. She’s a pushy broad, and she plays “assertively.” What does that mean? It means that she’s not aggressive, but perhaps some people might interpret her playfulness that way, especially when she open-mouths your arm. None of this bothers the Brunner family.

Echo’s favorite toy is Brian. She follows him around and prefers to be in the house where she can keep an eye on him.

Echo also has some signature poses. She’s a chin-between-the-paws kind of girl, and as you can see from this month’s cover photo, it’s hard to tell what’s going through that mind when she assumes the position. She’s also become Queen of the Couch, a place where she can stretch out comfortably. Fortunately, the Brunners have a coach large enough for two dogs, so often, the humans need to find someplace else to sit.

Malamutes are not new to Brian, and he says his wife Barb and 4-year-old son Troy brought home a dog that needed a home in 1994, indicating that it looked like the dogs he had as a child. In the picture to the right, you’ll see Brian’s family dogs circa 1959 when he was eight years old. Brian calls your attention to the telephone on the wall (a party line with only four numbers, 2604), but you’ll see also that solid white Nanook and black-and-white Cheena were lovely dogs.



FRUITY FROSTY HEARTS



Ingredients

- 1 cup seeded fresh watermelon
- 1/2 cup raspberries
- 3 tablespoons of yogurt

Mash the fruit and add the yogurt, stirring until mixed.

Freeze in heart-shaped plastic trays or ice cube trays.



AMAL REMEMBRANCES

November 1, 2021 - January 31, 2022

- In Memory of Patty Ann Peel, by Susan & Stephen Rich
- For the Dogs, by Carol & Mike Schneider
- In Memory of Catherine White - She loved her mals....by Helen C. White
- In Loving Memory of Summit, by Michael Paul



AMAL PROFIT & LOSS SUMMARY

October 1 through December 31, 2021

INCOME

Donations in	
General	\$7105.00
Membership	\$1025.00
National Specialty	\$7190.00
Miscellaneous (Internet links, etc.)	99.73
TOTAL INCOME	\$15419.73

EXPENSES

Newsletter	\$257.73
Veterinary	\$5755.47
National Specialty	\$1688.66
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2537.51

Quarterly Net Income **\$7717.87**

Checkbook balance
December 31, 2021) **\$152635.38**



DOUBLE YOUR DONATION!

Most Employee Donation Matching programs will match your donation to AMAL! Ask your Human Resources Department about your company's procedure. Questions? Please feel free to direct them to treasurer@malamuterescue.org.





S'more Malamutes *Catherine Watkins*

One of my closest friends loves camping, and I've wanted to join her on a trip for some time. Despite having a 6-month-old foster puppy in addition to my own dog, we decided to camp anyway. With a little extra packing (leashes, toys, crate) and a little extra planning (building in extra time and/or space options in case the dogs became stressed), this seemed doable. (Side note: Like all AMAL affiliates, Illinois Alaskan Malamute Rescue Association [IAMRA] volunteers are ready and willing to help throughout the foster process – fosters will never be in it alone!)

Luckily, this friend, IAMRA's very own Erin Murphy, was a veteran of camping with dogs, so I knew the idea couldn't be *too* crazy. Oh wait, I forgot to mention that Erin would be bringing THREE malamutes of her own. And a husband. Two crazy dog ladies with two sassy, spoiled IAMRA alums (Lutsen and Sawyer), two spastic, energetic female foster puppies (Moose and Valentine aka Squirt), one grumpy old man (Sanctuary Sweetheart Dylan), and a husband, all at one campsite. I thought this trip was borderline insanity.

And it was one of the best camping trips I have ever taken.

That little extra planning I mentioned? Erin and I made sure that there was room so each dog could have its own space if he or she became overwhelmed. We introduced dogs slowly, and watched body-language to know when to give space. Each dog spent some time during the days in the van or camper to calm down from so much stimulation. And sometimes we even let her husband roam around off-leash.

We had a blast. We talked and laughed for hours, made camping food, had campfires, and tried to get Dylan to carry firewood for us (unsuccessful). Squirt "helped" find branches for the fire (also not terribly successful), Sawyer and Lutsen constantly told us sob stories of how they had never been fed (more successful than the firewood-hauling), and Moose mostly played in the water bucket (big mess). And once the dogs were all comfortable with each other, we went hiking. Five gloriously fluffy malamute butts led the way. And with all of that playing and hiking, everyone slept wonderfully each night.

Having a foster does not mean you have to change your plans or put your life on hold. AMAL's rescue affiliates will help you decide what is possible and how to do it in ways that are best for you and your dog(s). Additionally, the affiliates cover the foster's costs from food and treats to medications and vet visits. Sign up to foster, and you too can have your best camping adventure yet.

Multi Dog Household Affiliate Program

During the Virtual Puppy Summit, CHAAMP listened to "Creating a Harmonious Multi Dog Household" by Katie Sipple, IAABC-ADT, B.Sc. of Wise Mind Canine. We were blown away and asked for information to share with the malamute community and adopters. Katie offered CHAAMP a membership to the MDH 101 Affiliate Program! She created a downloadable FREE booklet, "Dog-Dog Introduction Tips and Tricks" and offered us a \$100 rescue discount to share. This discount can be applied towards her DIY Online Course (with discount the course is \$97), Premium Online Course, or Private Training Program. Please share the FREE booklet and if you are interested in becoming an affiliate, contact Katie at katie@wisemindcanine.com or mimi.tello@chaamp.org if you have questions.

Katie said, "When we talk about Alaskan Malamutes in particular it would not be shocking to come across certain challenges: resource guarding, predatory aggression toward smaller animals, defensiveness to other dogs or people, same sex aggression, higher rates of agonistic behavior to other dogs in the home, and difficulty with confinement."

She continues, "None of these things would make your dog a bad dog. In fact, evolutionarily speaking, these features would make a very GOOD Malamute—one that produces offspring and has the wits, independence, and instinct for self preservation that would promote survival."

She then explained, "This is not to say that you WILL experience these things, but rather that these behaviors would make sense in an ethological context. These behaviors are often the consequence of introductions and dog relationships gone wrong and I see them every single day in every breed. This makes it even more critical to get this right in a breed who could have a tendency toward these difficult behaviors."



Dog-Dog Introduction Tips and Tricks

<https://www.chaamp.org/dog-dogintroductions>

Virtual Puppy Summit

<https://www.virtualpuppysummit.com/>

Wise Mind Canine

<https://wisemindcanine.com/mdh101affiliateprogram/>

Dog-Dog Introduction Tips and Tricks

<https://www.chaamp.org/dog-dogintroductions>



Ally is currently adoptable through the CHAAMP affiliate

Deciding to amputate a dog's leg can be scary. Although veterinarians regularly perform this surgical procedure, owners may have reservations. When considering a recommendation to amputate, owners usually wonder what to expect afterward.

Amputation is considered when a dog has a useless leg or a leg that cannot be fixed. These situations include osteosarcoma (bone cancer), bone trauma, severe tissue damage or infection, or birth defects. Dogs with osteosarcoma may have so much pain that they cannot use the leg. Patients with severe trauma or infection may never fully heal or return to normal function. The useless leg may become a burden for the pet. This is also true for patients with birth defects that cause abnormal limb development. Often, the vet removes the entire leg because any remaining limb can become traumatized or interfere with daily activities.

Owners may fret about wound complications following amputation. A study of cats and dogs found that among the 67 dogs, 12.8% developed a minor wound infection or inflammation that resolved after treatment. Not a big issue! Older age was the most significant predictive factor of wound complications and inflammation. Another study determined that surgical site infections (SSI) did not affect length of life in dogs with osteosarcoma.

Dogs are remarkably resilient, adapt quickly after limb amputation, and may even start to adapt before the surgery. Some owners have reported their dogs adapt completely within a week while said it took up to three months.

Behavioral or recreational activity changes after amputation are minimal. Most dogs have the same attitude, quality of life, and recreational activities as they did pre-amputation. In a survey of 64 owners, 78% reported that their dog's recovery was better than expected and 91% perceived no change in their dog's attitude.

If dogs that have difficulty navigating their daily activities or maneuvering stairs after amputation, many types of prosthetics (artificial legs) are available! Owners should ask their veterinarians if prosthetics are a feasible option.

Tripod? No Prob!

Isabella L. Bean

10 Tips for New Tripods

1. Don't let your malamute run until the stitches are removed, even if your pup is getting his or her energy back.
2. To prevent your dog from falling on the incision, lay down carpet or a rug over slippery spots on the floor, especially if you have wood or tile flooring.
3. If your dog's food bowl is on the floor, give it a boost by putting it on top of a small table or a box. This will be more comfortable for your dog and reduce bending to reach the food.
4. Keep the incision area clean and dry. To keep your dog from licking or scratching the incision area, get a cone for your dog or use an old t-shirt to cover the area.
5. Massage your dog's muscles when he or she is resting. Amputees use their muscles in new ways and massage may alleviate some strain.
6. To give your dog a better sense of balance during walks, walk next to the dog or walk alongside a fence.
7. Give your dog the medicine and pain medications that the veterinarian prescribed. You may also ice the incision, but talk to the veterinarian about this option.
8. Stay calm and act normal. You may confuse or worry your dog if you start acting weird or differently after the amputation.
9. Seek rehabilitation services for your pet. It helps amputees build strength, stamina, and stability.
10. Avoid stairs if possible. If not, carry your pet or support their weight using a towel or sheet slipped under the chest or abdomen like a sling.



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Most Popular Malamute Names!

The Dog People website has published the 103 most popular names for Alaskan Malamutes in 2021. These are the top ten:

1. Luna
2. Koda
3. Zeus
4. Bear
5. Loki
6. Nala
7. Maya
8. Max
9. Dakota
10. Odin

The New York Times did a piece on popular dog names in 2021 and interviewed an expert who reported that owners of sled dogs often gravitate toward Russian-sounding names. The expert said, "Awful lot of Sasha, Tasha and Masha." On this list, Mishka came in at #33, Sasha at #35, and Tundra at #93. No Tasha, no Masha. Many of the other names seem to be Alaskan-sounding.

Find the list here: <https://www.rover.com/blog/111-alaskan-malamute-names/>



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